





Joint Information Center - JIC Release No. 453 November 17, 2020, 8:10 p.m. (ChST)

# 100th COVID-19-Related Fatality Reported; Cumulative Results: 59 Test Positive for COVID-19; Guam EPA Resumes Permit Review; Avoid Sharing Unofficial and Unverified Information

For information on COVID-19 cases, visit the official COVID-19 Situation Report and Dashboard at <a href="http://dphss.guam.gov/covid-19/">http://dphss.guam.gov/covid-19/</a>.

### 100th COVID-19-Related Fatality Reported

The Joint Information Center was notified that Guam's 100th COVID-19-related fatality occurred at the Guam Memorial Hospital (GMH) at approximately 2:56 p.m. The patient was a 58-year-old male with underlying conditions that were further compounded by COVID-19. He was admitted to GMH on October 18, 2020 and tested positive upon admission.

"At the beginning of this pandemic, the models projected we would lose hundreds of lives to COVID-19. While we are thankful that that model did not become our reality, we cannot ignore the magnitude of this death. To his family and friends, Jeff, Lt. Governor Josh, and I offer you our sincerest condolences and sympathies," said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero. "We are told weeping may endure for the night, many nights as we know all too well. But we are also told to be strong and courageous--do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Let us do what we must to become worthy of those we laid to rest."

#### **Cumulative Results**

To date, there have been a total of **6,234** officially reported cases of COVID-19 with **100** deaths, **1,796** cases in active isolation and **4,338** not in active isolation.

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) releases the official COVID-19 Dashboard and Situation Report on weekdays, however the DPHSS surveillance team is currently transitioning to a new office location and was unable to generate a full situation report today. An abridged version of the situation report was generated tonight, which does not include case profiles, nor a detailed report of positive cases confirmed by other clinics and laboratories.

Of the **59** cases, **19** cases were identified through contact tracing. **Four** (**4**) cases reported recent travel and were identified in quarantine.

As of November 17, 2020, the COVID Area Risk (CAR) Score is **22.5**. The CAR Score accounts for the incidence of new cases, how well current testing identifies these cases, and the rate of spread. An ideal CAR Score for Guam would be 5.0 and below. To learn more about the CAR Score, visit Strive for Five.

The following breakdown provides cumulative COVID-19 test results reported to the Joint Information Center on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 and reflects results from Monday, November 16, 2020:

Laboratory	New Cases Reported on Tuesday, November 17	Samples Tested on Monday, November 16	Total Negative Tests (March 12 - November 16)	Total Reported Cases (March 12 - November 17, 2020)
Department of Public Health & Social Services (DPHSS) Guam Public Health Laboratory (GPHL)	59	776	39,287	3,556
Department of Defense (DoD)	N/A	N/A	8,704	578
Diagnostic Laboratory Services (DLS)	N/A	N/A	9,549	896
Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA) Laboratory	N/A	N/A	6,164	366
Guam National Guard (GUNG) Laboratory	N/A	N/A	17	0
Guam Regional Medical City (GRMC) Laboratory	N/A	N/A	4,661	285
Private Clinics	N/A	N/A	3,515	438
Other Laboratories	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
Probable Case	0	39	817	113
AS OF 8:10 PM, TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2020	Total Confirmed: 59	Total Samples Tested: 815	Total Negative Tests: 72,714	Total COVID-19 Cases: 6,234

COVID HOSPITAL CENSUS	Guam Memorial Hospital	Guam Regional Medical City	U.S. Naval Hospital	TOTAL
COVID ADMISSION	61	4	4	69
IN ICU	13	2	1	16
ON VENTILATOR	7	1	1	9

#### **Guam EPA Resumes Permit Review**

The Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA) has resumed permit review operations on Monday, November 16, 2020. GEPA previously reported on November 6 that an employee had tested positive for COVID-19, prompting the agency to suspend operations at its administration building. Four employees were identified as close contacts and remain in self quarantine. A contractor performed disinfecting services at the agency's administration building on November 11, and limited operations have resumed. For more information, please contact 647-GEPA (4372).

### **Avoid Sharing Unofficial and Unverified Information**

The Joint Information Center is aware of unverified messages circulating on chat groups and social media about purported lockdowns, fines, and other changes to the current Safer At Home

Advisory. At this time, there is no change to this advisory as described in these viral, unverified messages. The community is reminded to only share verified, official information with others to avoid the spread of misinformation.

## **GBHWC Crisis Hotline**

The Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) has a Crisis Hotline that is available 24/7 at (671) 647-8833/4. For those feeling anxious, stressed, overwhelmed or are needing to talk to someone, GBHWC has experienced providers available and ready to assist the community with any heightened stress and anxiety experienced as a result of COVID-19.

For the latest information on COVID-19, visit <u>dphss.guam.gov</u> or <u>guamrecovery.com</u>. For inquiries on COVID-19, contact 311 through a local number, or call the Joint Information Center at (671) 478-0208/09/10.

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